

**From:** Andrew W Potter  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Please add my voice to those who are dissatisfied with the proposed government settlement with Microsoft.

In my mind it is bad because:

- It allows Microsoft to continue its practice to consume software technologies into the ever increasing maw known as Windows. Browsers, performance utilities, now firewalls and virus scanner companies are all at risk of extinction because of Microsoft's activities. Remember, this will lead to less incentive to innovate and less diversity in the software environment.

- The "education" settlement is a major slap against the one small market place Apple computer has a nontrivial market share. By encouraging the cost sensitive education market to take huge numbers of "free" Microsoft based computing systems, Apple will quickly lose what tiny market share they have been able to garner in education. Perhaps an alternative would be to require Microsoft to purchase Apple computers for education.

- Microsoft's legal strategy is to delay, obfuscate and then when public attention has diminished, negotiate a favorable settlement. With the billions they have invested in their legal department, they have far more resources than any competitor could hope to have. The Justice department is the last hope at re-establishing a fair playing field.

Please reverse this terrible settlement and break Microsoft up into smaller companies that can give the software industry the competitive spirit it needs to jumpstart the stalled Internet revolution.

Andrew W. Potter  
Network Architect, Infrastructure Services Delivery & Support  
IBM Global Services - Network Services  
1630 Long Pond Road, Rochester NY 14626

Andrew.Potter@us.ibm.com  
(716) 720-7116/TIE 433-7116 FAX 720-7655  
Pager: 1-800-SKY-8888; Pin: 1785972; Email Subject: 1785972@skytel.com